

Please amend the application, as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please delete the third full paragraph on page 3 of the specification, and replace it with the following paragraph.

-- Instead of the layer containing nickel, layers of another metal, of cobalt or palladium for example, can be deposited onto the copper surfaces prior to forming the layer of gold. In this respect, US-A-5,202,151 proposes among other suggestions to apply a layer of cobalt to the copper surfaces and to deposit the layer of gold subsequently. Instead of electroplating a layer of nickel or cobalt, a layer of nickel or cobalt can also be applied by means of a vapor deposition process or by sputtering and then be electrolessly gold plated. DE 197 45 601 A1 moreover indicates a method of producing gold layers on a work piece that is provided with a palladium surface. --

REMARKS

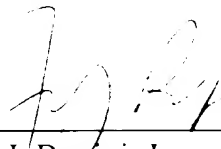
Applicant hereby respectfully requests entry of the above amendment to the specification which corrects a typographical error involving a German patent reference mentioned in the specification. A separate sheet, marked-up page 3 of the specification, is appended hereto, showing the changes made by this amendment pursuant to Rule 121(b). Reconsideration and entry of the amendment is hereby respectfully requested.

If necessary, an appropriate extension of time to respond is respectfully requested.

Attorney Docket No.: B-7062

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees which may
be required to Patent Office Deposit Account No. 05-0208.

Respectfully submitted,
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